



April 21, 2009

## **ELECTRONIC SYSTEM FOR TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION (ESTA™) ADVISORY STATEMENT**

As previously announced, as of January 12, 2009, all travelers under the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) must have obtained authorization through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA™) prior to initiating travel to the United States. This authorization may be obtained online through a free Internet application administered by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through a U.S. Government Web site.

DHS does not charge VWP travelers a fee for completion of an ESTA™ application. Eligible visitors seeking to travel to the United States under the VWP may apply for travel authorization via the ESTA™ Web site at <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov>.

VWP travelers should be aware that unauthorized third-parties have established Web sites, including ones that specifically target Singaporeans, which charge visitors seeking to travel to the United States under the VWP for information about ESTA™ and for submitting ESTA™ applications to DHS on behalf of the traveler. These businesses and Web sites are not endorsed by, associated with, or affiliated in any way with DHS or the United States Government. Again, the United States Government does not charge a fee to obtain information about, apply for, or obtain a travel authorization through the ESTA™ Web site. Use of a private service to apply for travel authorization via ESTA™ will not expedite the granting of approval.

The ESTA™ application Web site is available in 16 languages and includes a help section that provides additional information for VWP travelers to guide them through the application process. Additional information about ESTA™ may be found at <http://www.cbp.gov/esta>. Additional visa and travel information can be found on the Embassy website at <http://singapore.usembassy.gov/>.

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